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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

 Sheet **1** of **1**
**Complete if Known**

Application Number	<b>09/603,727</b>
Filing Date	<b>June 23, 2000</b>
First Named Inventor	<b>Lee W. MUELLER</b>
Group Art Unit	<b>3635</b>
Examiner Name	<b>Mark R. Wendell</b>
Attorney Docket Number	<b>SST-1070</b>

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear.
	<b>A1</b>	<b>US- 2,725,608</b>	<b>12-06-1955</b>	<b>T.W. Parslow</b>	
	<b>A2</b>	<b>US 4,037,379</b>	<b>08-21-2006</b>	<b>Ozanne</b>	
	<b>A3</b>	<b>US 5,345,716</b>	<b>08-21-2006</b>	<b>Caplan</b>	
	<b>A4</b>	<b>US- 5,640,824</b>	<b>06-24-1997</b>	<b>Johnson et al.</b>	
	<b>A5</b>	<b>US 5,848,512</b>	<b>12-15-1998</b>	<b>Conn</b>	
	<b>A6</b>	<b>US- 5,950,385</b>	<b>09-14-1999</b>	<b>Thomas R. Herren</b>	
	<b>A7</b>	<b>US 2002/0002806</b>	<b>01-10-2002</b>	<b>Commings et al.</b>	
	<b>A8</b>	<b>US 2004/0068947</b>	<b>04-15-2004</b>	<b>Commings et al.</b>	
	<b>A9</b>	<b>US- 2005/0126105</b>	<b>04-15-2004</b>	<b>Leek et al.</b>	
	<b>A10</b>	<b>US- 2005/0284073</b>	<b>12-29-2005</b>	<b>Leek et al.</b>	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>2</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
	<b>B1</b>	<b>JP S49-108213-A</b>	<b>1974</b>	<b>Eidai Co. Ltd.</b>		✓
	<b>B2</b>	<b>JP S52-19113-U1</b>	<b>1975</b>	<b>Matsushita Electric Works, Ltd.</b>		✓
	<b>B3</b>	<b>JP H-08-284296-A</b>	<b>10-29-1996</b>	<b>Onoda ALC KK</b>		✓
	<b>B4</b>	<b>JP S57-143307-U1</b>	<b>1982</b>	<b>Misawa Home Co., Ltd</b>		✓
	<b>B5</b>	<b>JP S57-106810-U1</b>				
	<b>B6</b>	<b>GB 2315288A</b>	<b>01-21-1998</b>	<b>DSC Engineering</b>		

**OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>
	<b>C1</b>	<b>ALFRED D. COMMINS AND ROBERT C. GREGG, "Cyclic Performance of Tall-Narrow Shearwall Assemblies," April 5, 1994, 12 pages.</b>	
	<b>C2</b>	<b>Affidavit of Karen Colonias Regarding Testing of Third Party Products by Simpson Strong-Tie</b>	
	<b>C3</b>	<b>FOREST PRODUCTS SOCIETY, "Earthquake Performance and Safety of Timber Structures, "Forest Products Society (Madison, WI), (1997) Title page, table of contents and pages 142 - 146</b>	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.

<sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.

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